

## DAVIE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

JUNE 24, 2003

6:30 P.M.

### 1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. Board members present were Vice-Chair Julie Aitken, Jason Hurley and Jacque Daniels. Also present were Councilmember Paul and Board Secretary Jenevia Edwards recording the meeting. Chair Hilda Testa and Barbara Spiece were absent.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: May 27, 2003

Ms. Daniels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hurley, to approve the minutes of May 27, 2003. In a voice vote, with Chair Testa and Ms. Spiece being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 3-0)**

Vice-Chair Aitken asked about the status of the Right to Hobby Farm Act which was recommended by the Board for submittal to Council. Councilmember Paul responded that she had not received it. Following a brief discussion, Councilmember Paul suggested that Vice-Chair Aitken forward a copy to Council.

### 3. DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Ideas for Possible Town Programs for Equestrian and Agricultural Interests

Mr. Hurley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Daniels, to table this item until the July 22nd meeting. In a voice vote, with Chair Testa and Ms. Spiece being absent, all voted in favor. **(Motion carried 3-0)**

### 4. OLD BUSINESS

#### 4.1 Hobby Farm Ordinance

This item was discussed earlier in the meeting.

#### 4.2 Equine Liability Signs

Vice-Chair Aitken provided an update concerning the equine liability signs adding that the lettering was not in compliance with the Florida Statutes. There was a brief discussion concerning possible liability for the Town in the event of an injury to a resident, as well as damage to the Town's equestrian lifestyle. Councilmember Paul advised that this needed to be brought to the immediate attention of the Town Administrator. Vice-Chair Aitken responded that this was done but to date there had been no response; however, Chair Testa had previously indicated that she would contact him again. Councilmember Paul indicated that Public Works/Capital Projects Director Bruce Bernard should be advised to remove the signs and replace them with new signs with the appropriate size lettering. A lengthy discussion followed concerning the size of the lettering, the intent of the law as stated in the Statute and placement of the signs.

Vice-Chair Aitken advised that Property Appraiser William Markham had removed the horse farms from the 1998 lawsuit; however, they had not been removed from other lawsuits. There was discussion on several issues such as the "strong" resolution which was tabled because the Town had not received the Property Appraiser's letter stating that he would drop the horse

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farm issue from all his lawsuits. Councilmember Paul commented that there was ample time for his response, but there had been no response to date.

The Board discussed the Appellate Court decision that horse boarding was agricultural, as well as the recent lawsuit against the Value Adjustment Board.

Vice-Chair Aitken referred to an e-mail she received regarding the Florida Land Trust and explained that the Board's letter of support was still needed; however, there was some delay receiving information. She added that the Board would be contacted by Planning Supervisor Marcie Nolan when the information was available. Vice-Chair Aitken advised that the Farmer's Guide had been reprinted and Candice Ordway, Administrative Aide was responsible for their distribution. She indicated that it had been the Board's recommendation that the Farmer's Guide be placed on the Town's web page; however, to date this had not been done, and suggested that Councilmember Paul discuss the issue with the Town Administrator.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

A brief discussion ensued concerning the replacement of Boardmember Ms. Spiece who had indicated that she would be resigning. Mr. Hurley expressed the opinion that Boardmembers make recommendation to the appointing Councilmember. It was suggested that the new appointee be someone in the nursery business which would create balance on the Board.

There was a lengthy discussion concerning several items that would be on the agenda for the upcoming Council meeting including the request to repeal the open space initiative. Vice-Chair Aitken spoke of all the Board's work, adding that there were Councilmembers who did not favor open space and there was a big move to withdraw the open space design portion of the Board's effort. It was the consensus of the Board that residents were getting a distorted view of the open space issue which was being propagandized.

Vice-Chair Aitken discussed the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) advising that applicants' properties had been appraised and negotiations were pending. She explained that there were efforts on the Town's part to get grants to set up its own PDR system for Davie farms.

**6. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS**

There were no comments and/or suggestions.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no objections and no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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Date Approved

Chair/Board Member